

or two or three houses—he said, Oh, that's all right. I buy carbon credits. He's still putting the stuff up there in the air.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time for a moment, I would point out that the carbon credits are the modern-day equivalent of the reason that Martin Luther came forward and nailed his positions up on the Diet of Worms which is, the church was selling indulgences. Carbon credits are indulgences that allow a company to pay for the carbon emissions that they're emitting into the atmosphere. I think that's what the judge is talking about.

Mr. CARTER. I think indulgence is a perfect word because you are allowing the dirty people to indulge in staying dirty by paying for it.

Mr. KING of Iowa. For a price.

Mr. CARTER. Under this ingenious government program we have got now, all they're doing is just paying more taxes.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Sin tax.

Mr. CARTER. It is a sin tax. That's exactly right. It's a sin tax. It is ludicrous to think it's going to reduce any carbon, CO₂ that goes into the atmosphere. Because as long as a guy wants to pay the taxes, he's in business. Let's face it, if I'm the guy that's paying the sin credit, the indulgence, well, if I can pass it on down to the neighbors down the street in their bill, that's where it's going to go. So those poor slob are paying the tax. Why should I worry about it? Why is that going to keep me from putting CO₂ into the atmosphere? This is insanity, but that's where we are.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Passing it on to the consumer is what this is about. We have seen the numbers that show that an MIT professor has done the calculation on the costs of the proposal on this cap-and-tax that's out before this Congress and put a macronumber on the cost to our economy. Then some ingenious people who just simply took the average number of persons in a household, which is calculated to be 2.54, and divided that into the overall cost to our economy, the increased cost of energy that has to do with cap-and-tax. They concluded that each household would see their energy costs go up annually by \$3,128 a year. Then the professor at MIT said, Oh, wait a minute. I'm real sorry I released the number because I don't like the result of the conclusion that came about because of the division of the numbers of persons in a household and the cost per household that would be the increase in the cost of all of our energy, electrical, our heat, our gas bill, our gasoline bill and our fuel oil and all of those things that are required to keep each household going. That's what's going on here. This is almost to the point where it's a religion that believes in something that isn't based upon a science. Now I'm great with faith, but I'm not so good with faith that's based upon pseudo-science.

I would ask the Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 35 minutes remaining.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I would be happy to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia, Dr. PAUL BROWN, another one of my friends and colleagues.

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, this whole cap-and-tax philosophy is a hoax. It's a hoax. It's a hoax on the American people, and it's a hoax because it's giving a promise that cannot be fulfilled. We are promised by the Democrats that this is going to create green jobs. Going back to what the gentleman from Spain said as Mr. AKIN and you, Mr. KING, were talking about, he said it cost jobs. Going back to the figure that you put out, Mr. KING, they had an unemployment rate of 17.5 percent because of their cap-and-tax, cap-and-trade policy that they put in place. The experts have looked at our economy, at our job market, and we're being promised green jobs. But the experts say that for every single green job that's produced, we're going to lose 2.2 other jobs, a net loss of 1.2 jobs for every job created in this false promise, this empty promise of creating jobs.

Now to buy off some certain groups, particularly the retirees and the poor people, they're going to give—who knows what, refundable tax credits—the President and Mr. WAXMAN and others are promising to give more money to the poor people to take care of this higher tax, higher food cost, higher cost for all goods and services. Where's that going to come from? It's going to steal from my grandchildren. It's stealing from their future. Don't be fooled by this hoax, by all the smoke and mirrors, by all this promise because it's not going to do anything but cost jobs. It's going to create a higher cost of living for everybody, and it's going to put us in a deeper recession, maybe even a depression if we continue down this road. Republicans have offered amendment after amendment in the committee, but they've been defeated by the Democrats. Amendments to even just stop this from going into place if the gas taxes or gas costs go too high or if electric prices go too high or if other prices go too high for the American people. But the Democrats have voted uniformly not to accept those amendments over and over again.

Congresswoman LUMMIS from Wyoming talked very eloquently about some of the ideas that Republicans are producing. The American people are told that the Republican Party is the Party of No. Well, I agree with that. We are the Party of No, but the know is K-N-O-W. We know how to solve this economic downturn. We know how to solve some of the financing problems in health care. We know how to create an all-of-the-above solution to the energy problem to make America energy independent.

□ 2100

But the Speaker of the House has been an obstructionist. She has been an obstructionist and not allowed any idea that we have proposed for all these things to stimulate the economy, to solve the problem we had with the housing market and to solve the banking problem. We have not been allowed. All of our ideas have been blocked by the leadership of this House and the leadership of the Senate.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Absolutely.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I would just ask: Have all of your ideas been blocked? How does this work? Can't you offer an amendment that would put up a recorded vote and tell America where you stand? What prevents you from at least telling America where you stand so that they can evaluate the votes of people on both sides of the aisle and make their decision in November of 2010? What is the obstruction there?

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Absolutely. And I have offered an amendment to the non-stimulus bill. I offered an amendment that said, let's bail out the American people instead of bailing out all these favorable groups, the payback groups. In fact, the Democrats were bent on spending \$835 billion of our grandchildren's and children's future. I said, if we are going to do that, let's really do something that stimulates the economy. Let's send that money to the legal resident taxpayers in this country. And I introduced an amendment that would have sent a check for almost \$9,000 per legal resident taxpayer. A couple would have gotten \$18,000. That would have stimulated the economy because they would have paid off credit card bills. They would have saved it. They would have bought education or food.

Mr. KING of Iowa. If the gentleman would yield, then why didn't I see that amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives and have an opportunity to send a message to my constituents about how I would like to see this economy managed? Is there a reason that blocked that from coming to the floor?

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Absolutely. And I thank you for asking because that is exactly what I was referring to. Every single idea, my idea as well as many others, have been blocked. They have been obstructed. My amendment was considered not to be valid. And they just totally would not allow my amendment to even be considered on this floor.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Reclaiming my time, the Rules Committee, which is up there on the third floor, meets without the benefit of television cameras and often without the benefit of the news media even reporting it. They can decide whether your idea can be heard on the floor of the House of Representatives. And often the Rules Committee decides that your idea will not be heard and it will not see the light of day. Is that correct?